

from him last week
which I'm to pay back
five dollars a week for
the next six months
I'm getting so far in
debt to him that I can't
afford him anymore

I used to borrow
on the rent he owed me
before he moved out
now I get mad and say
"Go to hell, just try
and get that money."
and we split
I felt good
I forgot about my debt
but I begin to miss him
and I call him
we get back together
he doesn't forget
I owe the money all over again

but ... if he'll loan me
the money tomorrow
there is a sure thing running
in the fifth race
an exacta 5-9 9-5
Yodajo to Prince Dantan
and I can pay him back
in one lump sum

the box

yes, I have this box
and unfortunately the box
comes attached
to arms, legs, feet,
a mouth and desires
not necessarily dominated
by the box
but he can't understand
how the feet like to dance
the arms like to shake
hips and thighs roll
the lips can even
laugh and kiss
without the box
even getting involved
he thinks because
the box starts jumping
when he shakes it

that it also jumps
for every other man
he imagines it is
like mexican beans
jumping all the time
and he tried to destroy
it with choice names
but I am afraid
the arms, legs, feet,
mouth and active desires
will still go on
not necessarily
dominated by the box.

The Last Hold Outs

these two aged sisters
own their old family home
located downtown Hollywood Blvd.
and have refused all offers
to sell through the years
as business and commercialism
crowded the street

they both dress
in rags and charge
50¢ daytime parking
\$1 nighttime parking
in their front and backyard
they rent two small stores
on their property
and outdoor spaces along the Blvd.

one sister is
in charge of renting
the other handles parking
which rich business men
driving big cars
who eat and drink for hours
down the street
at the Greek Village
sometimes refuse to pay

last night Grace
stayed up until midnight
and stood in front of
the 73 Lincoln
determined to get her
\$1 parking from four men
but two of them, high from drinking
got out and moved her aside
while they drove off free